

523, 384

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/015694 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G11B 7/00**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2003/003419
- (22) International Filing Date: 4 August 2003 (04.08.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
02078216.5 5 August 2002 (05.08.2002) EP
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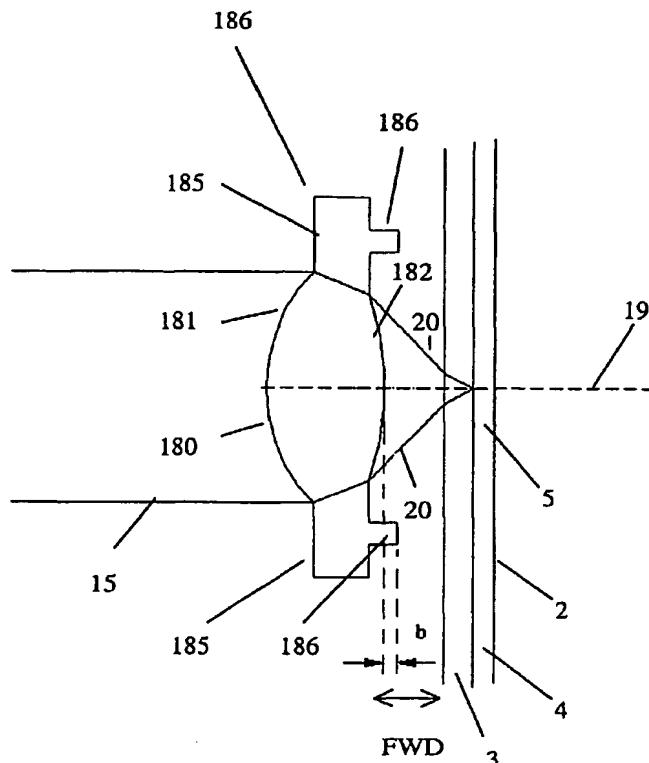
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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

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(54) Title: SCANNING DEVICE INCLUDING AN OBJECTIVE SYSTEM WITH A LENS PROTECTION DEVICE



(57) **Abstract:** An optical scanning device (1) for scanning an information layer (4) of an optical record carrier (2), the device (1) comprising a radiation source (11) for generating a radiation beam (12, 15, 20) and an objective system (18) for converging the radiation beam on the information layer, the information layer being covered by a transparent layer (3) of thickness t_d and refractive index n_d . The objective system comprises a lens having a protection device projecting away from the lens towards the optical record carrier such that the distance between the protection device and the optical record carrier is less than the free working distance. The lens satisfies the condition: where D is the entrance pupil diameter, FWD is the free working distance, and D , FWD , t and t_d are all expressed in millimeters and where $FWD + t_d/n_d < 0.51$.

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